

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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January 30, 1991

CMSP Letter # 91-4

TO: All CMSP County Welfare Directors

SUBJECT: CMSP BENEFITS FOR ELIGIBLE ALIENS

Several counties have recently asked for clarification of the County Medical Services Program (CMSP) policies and procedures which apply to CMSP applicants/beneficiaries who are neither nationals nor citizens of the United States. What follows in this letter is a summary of these existing CMSP policies and procedures.

Aliens with Satisfactory Immigration Status (SIS)

Aliens who establish SIS by presenting documentation listed in Sections 0303 or 0304 of the CMSP Eligibility Manual and who meet all other CMSP eligibility requirements are eligible for full CMSP benefits. These aliens must be placed in the appropriate CMSP Aid Code. These aid codes are: 84, 85, 88, 89.

As detailed in CMSP Eligibility Manual, Section 0307, applicants for full CMSP benefits have 30 calendar days, or the time it actually takes the county to process the CMSP application, whichever is longer, to submit documentation. Alien CMSP applicants may receive full CMSP benefits pending a determination of immigration status by the Federal Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

Aliens in Amnesty Status

Aliens who establish status as amnesty aliens by presenting the documentation listed in Section 0305 of the CMSP Eligibility Manual and who meet all other CMSP eligibility requirements are eligible for full CMSP benefits. These aliens must also be placed in the appropriate CMSP Aid Code. These aid codes are: 84, 85, 88, 89.

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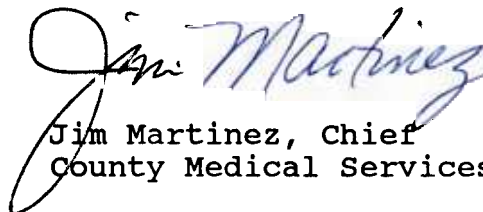
Amnesty aliens eligible for limited scope Medi-Cal benefits and placed in Medi-Cal Aid Code 52 or 57 may also receive a full CMSP benefit Aid Code Card (i.e., 84, 85, 88, 89) in the same month. Receipt of the CMSP card, however, is not automatic and must be hand issued only when the amnesty alien requests it. Further, under no circumstances should any Medi-Cal eligible "OBRA" alien (Aid Code 58) be issued a CMSP card in any CMSP Aid Code (i.e., 84, 85, 88, 89 or 50).

Aliens Whose Immigration Status Has Not Been Determined By INS

All aliens who either lack INS-issued documentation establishing SIS or are nonimmigrants legally admitted to the United States for a limited period are eligible for restricted CMSP benefits only if they meet all other CMSP eligibility requirements. These aliens must be placed only in CMSP Aid Code 50. Restricted CMSP benefits are program-covered services to treat an emergency medical condition and do not include "pregnancy related services". Medi-Cal eligible amnesty aliens in Aide Codes 52 or 57 and Medi-Cal eligible "OBRA" aliens (Aid Code 58) must never be issued a CMSP Aid Code 50 card.

If you have any questions regarding these policies or issues, please contact Mr. Al Cooper, at (916) 739-3141.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Martinez". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "J" and a cursive "Martinez".

Jim Martinez, Chief
County Medical Services Program

cc: Mr. Al Cooper
County Medical Services Program
County Medical Services Section
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CMSP Contact Persons